REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks.

The claims have been amended as kindly suggested by the Examiner on page 3, paragraph 4 of the Action.

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that the ground of rejection set forth in the Action has been overcome and that the application is now in condition for allowance.

Accordingly, such allowance is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Hidehisa ASADA et al.

By: Warren M. Cheek, Jr. Registration No. 33,367 Attorney for Applicants

WMC/dlk Washington, D.C. 20006-1021 Telephone (202) 721-8200 Facsimile (202) 721-8250 June 29, 2004